

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 IO-14 ACDA-19 NIC-01 SAJ-01 OMB-01

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PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-20 USIA-15 EB-11 TRSE-00

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R 111606Z JAN 74

FM USMISSION BERLIN

TO AMEMBASSY BONN

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 2823

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY PARIS

USMISSION NATO

C O N F I D E N T I A L BERLIN 58

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PGOV, PFOR, WB, UR, GE, GW

SUBJECT: GOVERNING MAYOR MEETING WITH SOVIET AMBASSADOR JAN 8.

1. GOVERNING MAYOR SCHUETZ MET FOR THREE AND ONE-HALF HOURS WITH SOVIET AMBASSADOR YEFREMOV IN EAST BERLIN JANUARY 8 AT YEFREMOV'S REQUEST.

2. ACCORDING TO ACCOUNT GIVEN SENAT LIAISON OFFICER BY SENAT CHANCELLERY DIRECTORY HERZ (AND CONFIRMED IN SUBSEQUENT WRITTEN REPORT), MEETING WAS FRIENDLY BUT SUBSTANTIVE SUBJECTS WERE NOT DISCUSSED IN DETAIL. SENAT WAS PUZZLED, HERZ SAID, AS TO REASONS THE SOVIETS ASKED FOR THE MEEETING AND SPECULATED THAT PERHAPS IT WAS AN ATTEMPT TO DEMONSTRATE SOVIET GOOD WILL. (WE SPECULATE THAT IN PART AT LEAST IT WAS ATTEMPT TO PRESENT SOVIETS PUBLICLY AT OUTSET OF NEW YEAR AS BEING IN COMPARABLE POSITION TO THAT OF WESTERN ALLIES IN RELATIONS WITH GOVERNING MAYOR.)

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3. HERZ SAID YEFREMOV TOUCHED BRIEFLY ON FEDERAL ENVIRONMENT OFFICE, NOTING THAT SOVIETS CATEGORICALLY OPPOSED ESTABLISHMENT OF NEW FEDERAL OFFICE IN BERLIN. YEFREMOV ADDED THAT WHEN HE HAD BEEN IN CHARGE OF A SOVIET REGION HE WAS HAPPY WHEN NO ONE CAME FROM MOSCOW, AND HE COULD NOT UNDERSTAND SCHUETZ'S DESIRE FOR INCREASED FEDERAL PRESENCE. SCHUETZ REPLIED THAT THERE SHOULD BE NO FREEZING OF TIES BETWEEN WEST BERLIN AND FRG BUT THEY SHOULD BE DEVELOPED. YEFREMOV ALSO TOOK UP (WITHOUT ADDING ANYTHING NEW) PLANNED BUDESTAG PRESIDUM MEETING IN BERLIN, SENAT RESTRICTIONS ON CONTACTS WITH SOVIETS, AND SENAT REMONSTRATIONS ON MINIMUM CURRENCY-EXCHANGE REQUIREMENTS FOR VISITORS TO EAST BERLIN AND GDR. HE DECLARED THAT HE DID NOT WISH CONFLICTS OR COMPLICATIONS IN HIS RELATIONS WITH WEST BERLIN. SCHUETZ RESPONDED BY PRESENTING SENAT POSITIONS ON GDR MINIMUM CURRENCY-EXCHANGE INCREASES AND CONTACTS WITH THE SOVIETS, AND BOTH SCHUETZ AND YEFREMOV PLEDGED ALLEGIANCE TO BRANDT-BREZHNEV FORMULATION ON RESPECT FOR LETTER AND SPIRIT OF QA.

4. YEFREMOV HANDED SCHUETZ WRITTEN PROTEST CONCERNING NEW SENAT INSTRUCTION FOR FILLING OUT WEST BERLIN IDENTITY CARDS, WHICH REQUIRE FOR PLACE-OF-BIRTH ENTRY USE OF GERMAN PLACE NAMES WHICH WERE USED IN FORMER "DEUTSCHEN REICH" AS WELL AS GERMAN PLACE NAMES FOR AREAS WITHIN "GERMAN EASTERN TERRITORIES" (DEUTSCHEN OSTGEBIETEN), WHICH "AT THIS TIME ARE UNDER POLISH OR SOVIET ADMINISTRATION.") SCHUETZ ACCEPTED PROTEST AND SAID HE WOULD LOOK INTO IT.

5. COMMENT: SCHUETZ RUSHED OVER TO EAST BERLIN DAY AFTER HE RETURNED FROM VACATION FOR MEETING WITH SOVIET AMBASSADOR WITHOUT CONSULTING WESTERN ALLIES. (SENAT LIAISON OFFICERS WERE SIMPLY INFORMED DAY BEFORE.) WE PLAN TO ASK GOVERNING MAYOR IN OUR NEXT MEETING WITH HIM WHAT SENAT HOPES TO ACHIEVE THROUGH SUCH ALL-TOO-WELL PUBLICIZED MEETINGS WITH SOVIETS.

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6. ALTHOUGH LANGUAGE IN SENAT IDENTITY-CARD REGULATION APPEARS UNDULY PROVOCATIVE, WE ARE ALSO CONCERNED THAT SCHUETZ ACCEPTED WRITTEN PROTEST FROM SOVIET AMBASSADOR ON SUBJECT WHICH SHOULD HAVE BEEN ADDRESSED TO ALLIES. WE PLAN TO SUGGEST THAT INSTEAD OF RESPONDING TO SUBSTANCE, SENAT MERELY INDICATE TO SOVIETS THAT MATTER HAS BEEN REFERRED TO ALLIES. (WE, IN TURN, WOULD NOT PROPOSE TO TAKE NOTE OF PROTEST UNTIL SOVIETS

RAISE MATTER DIRECTLY WITH US.)KLEIN

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